

Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

MISCELLANEOUS PUBLICATION NO. 8
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D. C., SEPTEMBER, 1927

A Review of Five Years of Fact Organization and State
and Regional Program Making in the Western States,¹
and a Report of the 1927 Extension Conference

W. A. LLOYD

Regional Agent in Charge, Western States, Office of Cooperative Extension Work

CONTENTS

	Page		Page
Foreword-----	1	A regional conference on poultry and	
State and county conferences-----	3	clothing, 1927-----	12
Western States regional conferences-----	5	Report of committee on clothing-----	12
Results of regional conferences-----	9	Report of committee on poultry-----	14

FOREWORD

At the beginning of extension work the program of the county extension agent was largely predetermined. The Smith-Lever Act of 1914 was based on the idea that there existed a great body of results from experiment and research which, if applied to farm and home practices, would have a helpful influence on the farm business and the home life. It was the duty of the extension agent to show by concrete, visible demonstrations the methods of applying the results of scientific discovery to agricultural practices. The county extension agent, the college, and the department largely determined and were responsible for the things that were to be demonstrated. This phase of program development continued from 1904 to about 1916.

About 1916 program making passed into a second phase which lasted until 1922 and might be called the period of self-determined programs. The county extension agent, through farm organizations, committees, and group meetings, obtained from the farmers an expression of what work they desired and what they thought should be done. On the basis of this community expression, the extension agent organized his program and projects, worked out his plans, and appointed his leaders. This method of program development obtained a larger measure of sympathy and support from rural people. Projects tended to become more definite, and goals and objectives were set. Perhaps diffuseness was the greatest defect of this phase of program making. To a degree this method was modified or interrupted during the war when there existed for a brief period in most counties an artificial or emergency program, which was a part of the country's general organization for war. The two phases in program development, the predetermined and self-determined, had one characteristic in common. Both were concerned primarily with practices desirable for adoption in certain lines of production.

¹ This review, in slightly different form, was presented by the writer at the Western States Extension Conference, Reno, Nev., July 11, 1927.

RANGE-LIVESTOCK PROGRAM

1. CULL FEMALES. KEEP THE BEST FOR BREEDING.
2. HIGHER PERCENTAGE CALF AND LAMB CROP.
3. BETTER GRAZING METHODS.
4. RANCH BUSINESS RECORD KEEPING.
5. GRADING FOR MARKETING.

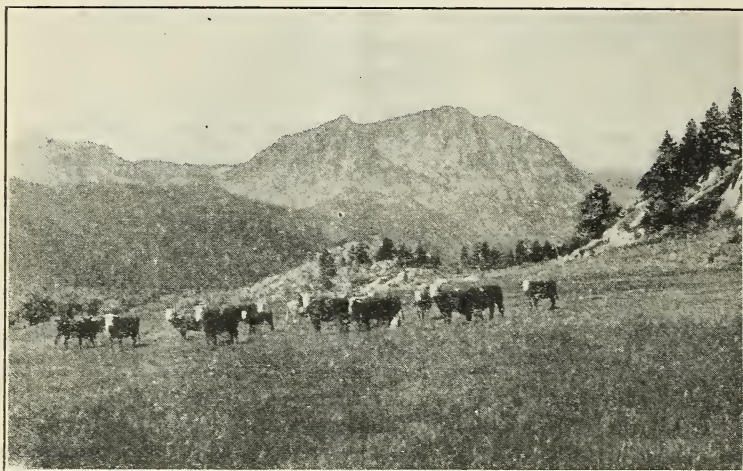


FIG. 1.—Portion of a poster displaying the important features of the Western States range-livestock extension program

During the agricultural depression that followed the war the problem appeared to be more a matter of what to produce, how much to produce, and where to produce it, rather than merely to improve productive processes. In this new field neither the State experiment stations nor the Federal Department of Agriculture had any considerable organized background of research upon which to base projects. Organized investigation in agricultural economics, marketing, and farm management is comparatively new.

About 1922 a third phase of extension program making began, which may be called a period of fact-determined programs. These differ fundamentally from the predetermined and self-determined types, since their objective is to affect the character, location, and size of farm enterprises rather than their interior processes. The making of such programs turned the attention of extension workers toward the field of agricultural economics, particularly farm management. Preliminary to a fact-determined extension program in any section there must necessarily be an assembly, organization, and interpretation of the available facts relating to the farming industry as a whole on either a regional or an enterprise basis, or both. Many

facts exist relating to the economic aspects of farming, but they have been developed by various organizations and by agencies of the State and Federal Governments. Before such facts can be particularly useful as a basis for extension program development they must be gathered together, coordinated, and studied. Often a special line of investigation must be undertaken and new facts developed before a safe or correct interpretation can be given. During the last five years the cooperative extension service in the Western States has functioned as an organization agency in this fact-determining procedure. Two general methods have been followed:

(1) One or more persons have been employed by either the extension service or the experiment station, who have devoted their time exclusively to the assembling and organization of these basic facts.

(2) Committees composed of representatives from both the State experiment station and the extension service have been appointed, usually on an enterprise or commodity basis, to assemble and publish all the facts available relating to that particular enterprise. These committees also have included in their membership the county extension agents, farmers, and sometimes representatives of commercial, banking, manufacturing, and transportation interests. After the facts have been assembled, organized, and published the second phase of the procedure has been their interpretation. This interpretation has been accomplished in group meetings, at which representatives of the State experiment station and the extension service met with a number of producers, analyzed carefully the facts presented, and usually recommended a production program. Such meetings have been held on both the enterprise and the area basis; that is, conferences have been held concerning such subjects as apples, wheat, poultry, and dairying, or to consider the facts relating to such areas as the Arkansas Valley in Colorado, or the Columbia River Basin, or single counties.

In fact-determined programs the improvement of enterprise processes is no less important than formerly. Now, however, these become the project phases to be considered in relation to the whole enterprise rather than as a unit of prime importance in themselves.

In these fact-determined programs extension workers and farm people seem to have found a sounder basis for projecting a scheme of extension activities. With the economic facts bearing on a farm enterprise or agricultural area thoroughly understood, farm organizations and extension workers should be in position to think out a long-time constructive extension program.

STATE AND COUNTY CONFERENCES

Fact organization as a basis for program development had its first important development in Oregon in 1922. A number of fact-organization committees were appointed by the extension service on an enterprise basis. Reports of these committees were formulated and adopted at a State economic conference. These were published as a single report and have furnished a general background for further fact organization on a county, regional, and enterprise basis. Nineteen counties in Oregon have held one-day or two-day fact-organization conferences, the college people and local farmers participating.

NUTRITION PROGRAM

1. "LIVE-AT-HOME" ADEQUATE HOME-GROWN FOOD SUPPLY.
2. HOME GARDENS.
3. ADEQUATE MILK SUPPLY, PARTICULARLY FOR CHILDREN.
4. POULTRY FLOCK FOR HOME USE.
5. CONSERVATION AND TIMELY DISTRIBUTION OF FARM MEAT SUPPLY.
6. A BALANCED FAMILY DIET FOR HEALTH, STRENGTH, AND EFFICIENCY.



FIG. 2.—Portion of a poster displaying the important features of the Western States nutrition program

In a few counties facts relating to the home have been considered by special committees. Their conclusions have been published in printed bulletins. Two conferences regarding irrigation projects have been held and the facts organized. Two enterprise conferences have been held for consideration and assembly of facts relating to particular commodities—wheat and prunes. Other county and regional conferences are to be held.

In Montana a State organization of facts has been developed and six area conferences held. In addition, two county fact-organization conferences have been held, and additional county conferences are scheduled for the fall of 1927. Montana is developing facts relating to home conditions and country life in connection with its agricul-

tural program. The fact-organization work began in Montana in 1922.

Colorado held a State conference in 1923, and a State program was published. Since then two area conferences involving the Arkansas and San Luis Valleys have been held. The facts relating to home conditions as a basis for a sound program in home economics were also organized in these area conferences. Plans have been made for two more regional conferences to be held during the summer of 1927.

Washington is proceeding on an enterprise basis looking to the holding of a state-wide conference after the more important enterprise studies have been completed. Up to the present time, wheat, dairy, poultry, forage crops, the more important fruits, and lettuce have been covered. A series of county conferences is now planned.

In California the statistical or fact organization has been done by the extension service and the experiment station in cooperation with organized producers' associations. The results have been presented through printed bulletins. Peaches, poultry, lettuce, and cantaloupes have already been covered.

In Idaho a State fact-organization conference has been held and the conclusions there reached are in process of publication. The Federal Department of Agriculture, the State department of agriculture, and the agricultural college cooperated in the development of the facts. An area conference on an irrigation project has since been held, and county conferences will be held during the summer and fall of 1927.

In Nevada a State conference has been held, also two county conferences involving an irrigation project. The proceedings are in progress of publication.

In New Mexico one fact-organization conference has been held in relation to the Rio Grande reclamation project, involving cooperation with the State of Texas and the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

In Arizona fact-organization work is in its preliminary stage. Plans are in progress for holding a conference for the development of facts and a conference on the Salt River reclamation project.

Utah is making a definite study of one enterprise—apples—cooperating with the experiment station and the Federal Department of Agriculture, and is laying the basis for the appointment of institutional committees for its state-wide fact-organization work.

Wyoming is making plans for fact organization covering one of its important irrigation projects.

The exact procedure of these conferences has varied in different States but has been essentially as follows:

The extension service has generally assumed responsibility for the appointment of committees, organization of facts, holding of the conferences, and publishing of results. The experiment station and the Federal Department of Agriculture have participated. Farmers have participated, either through their cooperative organizations or as individuals. In many conferences manufacturers, bankers, processors, shippers, and other interested groups have taken part.

WESTERN STATES REGIONAL CONFERENCES

In addition to the effort within the several States, the Western States regional conference, since 1923, has been organized on a pro-

DAIRY PROGRAM

1. IMPROVEMENT IN QUALITY OF ANIMALS.

- (a) COW-TESTING ASSOCIATIONS.
- (b) PUREBRED BULLS.
- (c) BULL ASSOCIATIONS

2. IMPROVEMENT IN FEED OF ANIMALS.

BETTER RATIONS.

3. IMPROVEMENT IN HEALTH OF ANIMALS.

CONTROL OF TUBERCULOSIS.

4. IMPROVEMENT IN MARKETING OF MILK.

CAMPAIGNS FOR IMPROVING QUALITY.



FIG. 3.—Portion of a poster displaying the important features of the Western States dairy-extension program

gram-development basis. At the regional conferences held at Fort Collins, Colo., in 1923, at Tucson, Ariz., in 1924, and at Pullman, Wash., in 1925, the subjects of range livestock, human nutrition, dairying, the major farm crops, farm management, and home management were covered. At the conference held at Reno, Nev., in July, 1927, poultry and clothing received regional consideration. With the exception of range livestock and dairying, comparatively little statistical organization on a regional basis has been done. The approach has been through a study of the project phases that have received emphasis in the various States. The plans of work and the results obtained in the various States have been studied carefully and selection made of the more important phases for regional emphasis. The programs that have come out of this series of regional

conferences have proved generally acceptable and provoked much favorable comment for their apparent economic soundness.

The salient features of the regional programs in the six extension projects considered at the conferences in 1923, 1924, and 1925 were presented in poster form at the Transcontinental Highways Exposition at Reno, Nev., June 25 to July 31, 1927. These posters are reproduced in part in Figures 1 to 6.

The work of the standing regional project committees appointed by the Western States conference has resulted in a request for a special investigation of the range-livestock industry by means of a cooperative project of the Department of Agriculture and the States of Arizona, Montana, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming. At the request of the Pullman conference the Bureau of Agricultural Economics made a study of the dairy industry in the Western States. The results of these studies and surveys either have been or are being made available to the States. These standing regional committees review annually the progress made in carrying out the program and make such revision of recommendations as may be warranted by new facts.

The series of Western States regional conferences is the center of the whole fact-organization and program-making effort. It has furnished the idealism without which any considerable effort must fail. In each of the States the study of particular enterprises has shown that State boundary lines have little relation to economic or enterprise areas.

The wheat conferences in Oregon and Washington disclosed that this enterprise must be considered from the standpoint of the Northwest, which includes Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Montana. In Idaho the poultry committee studies brought out the necessity of intimate knowledge of Los Angeles market conditions. In Nevada the State and irrigation-project conferences developed that the facts relating to California were even more important than the facts relating to Nevada. Much reenforcement has already been drawn from the studies made in California. The prune committees in Oregon at once found that the prune enterprise was a joint one with Washington, California, and Idaho.

These illustrations point to the need of regional consideration and regional conferences. Ultimately the State and county extension programs must be based on a knowledge of the whole situation as it affects the enterprise, and not simply on its local manifestations. There is no political or administrative overhead on a regional basis with personnel and funds to carry on, so drafts are being made on the Federal Department of Agriculture and other Federal departments. As the fact-organization effort proceeds such requests increase and already have brought into existence a new type of project, in which a bureau of the Federal Department of Agriculture and several State experiment stations and extension services cooperate, as in the range-livestock survey.

CROP PROGRAM

1. ALFALFA AS A FORAGE CROP.
2. CORN AND BARLEY AS SUPPLEMENTARY FEED.
3. WHEAT AND POTATOES AS CASH CROPS.
4. VEGETABLES AND FRUIT CROPS FOR HOME USE.
5. DIVERSIFICATION.
6. STANDARDIZATION OF VARIETIES.
7. CONTROL OF DISEASES AND INSECT PESTS.
8. WEED CONTROL.
9. ECONOMIC USE OF WATER.

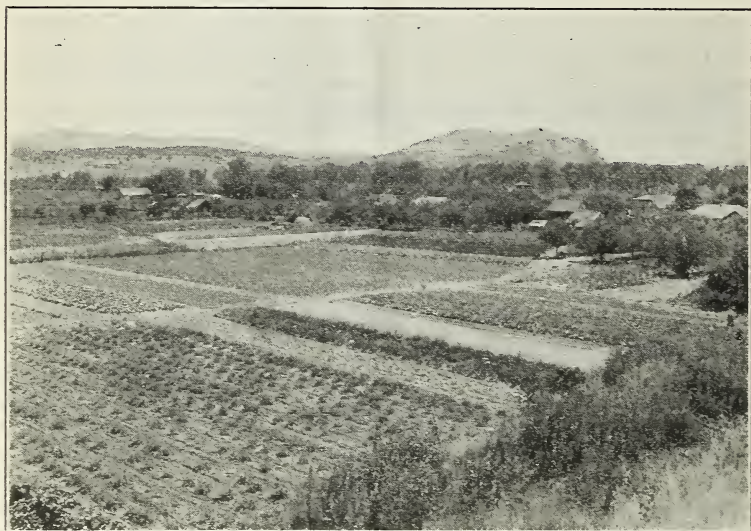


FIG. 4.—Portion of a poster displaying the important features of the Western States crop program

At one time the standing regional extension committees hoped that they might broaden their personnel by additions from the experiment stations, producers, and other allied agencies and thus make the regional enterprise conferences more representative. The need for such organization is apparent. It is still a possible development of the future. The chairmen of the regional committees are functioning as liaison officers between the extension services of the several States and the Federal Government.

In the field of home economics the work of the standing nutrition and home-management committees has been even more fruitful than the work of the standing committees in agriculture. A remarkable coordination and standardization of projects has taken place, and

HOME-MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

1. KITCHEN IMPROVEMENT TO SAVE LABOR.
2. INSTALLATION OF WATER AND HOME SEWAGE-DISPOSAL SYSTEM.
3. HOME FURNISHING TO PROMOTE COMFORT AND ATTRACTIVENESS.
4. HOME ACCOUNTS AND BUDGETS.
5. HOME PLANNING AND REMODELING.

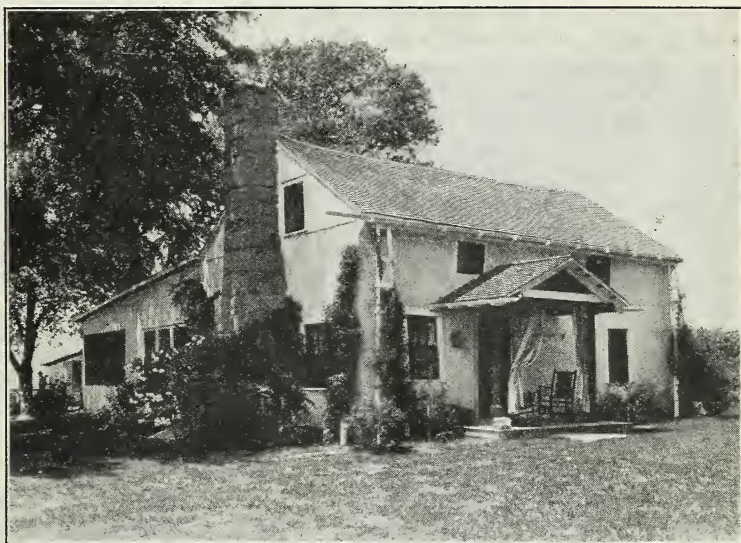


FIG. 5.—Portion of a poster displaying the important features of the Western States home-management extension program

the regional reenforcement in carrying out State projects is manifest in the plans of work for almost every State.

Boys' and girls' clubs are functioning as never before as effective demonstration agencies in reenforcing the adult extension projects.

RESULTS OF REGIONAL CONFERENCES

Following are some of the results of the fact-organization effort, after five years of organized regional program development.

This effort has made the extension personnel of the Western States regionally minded. It has broadened the horizon; there is less provincialism and more toleration. It is more clearly seen that the important problem is not a personal one, nor a county one, nor

often even a State one, but that the Western States have much in common and must go along together in most things. It has helped extension workers to focus their efforts on the larger objectives.

It has brought the extension and research personnel of the State and Federal Governments into better working relationship and is bringing about a coordination of projects among the States and within the States.

It is discovering the absence of needed facts—the need for more research. It has had an effect on the investigational projects of the Federal Department of Agriculture and of the individual States under the Purnell Act.

It has brought the western situation more concretely to the attention of the Federal Department of Agriculture. The West is a long way from Washington. Western agriculture measured by middle-western standards may not seem important, but is of tremendous importance to the West. There are now but few offices in the Federal Department of Agriculture that have not heard of the Western States program and the individual State programs. The Department of Agriculture believes in the effort. It is anxious to cooperate. That is why so many representatives of the department attend the Western States regional conferences.

It has made extension workers surer of their projects and given them more faith in what is being done. It has not so far greatly changed the kind of projects. In the main the same things are being done, but it has often changed the emphasis and given facts to back up the judgment used in selecting projects.

It has helped to counteract ill-considered advice, whether selfish or merely uninformed. The West, like the rest of the country, is full of people who “know” how to save the farmer. They are usually well-meaning, sometimes themselves the victims of propaganda. The regional, State, and county conferences have furnished the county agents with facts arrived at in conferences in which these well-meaning advisers have often participated.

The western program-making effort has placed the agricultural college in the place of leadership that properly belongs to it. It has coordinated the miscellaneous and often contradictory efforts of educational, business, and political agencies. It has given them a place in the program where they can do the things that they are best prepared to do.

For the first time it has focused extension attention on the great livestock industry of the West, the dry-land problem, and the problem of land utilization. It has brought about a helpful and friendly understanding between the livestock producers and the extension agents.

It has helped the county agent to focus on the essentials and to make the programs more definite, more condensed. There are more long-time goals and less miscellaneous, unrelated effort.

It is helping to coordinate the home program with the agricultural program and has brought about a better realization of the fact that, particularly in the West, a settled, stable, satisfactory farm home is fundamental to the full development of the economic program. This is reflected in the fact that last year practically every agricultural agent in the West in counties having no home demonstration agent carried on more home projects.

FARM-MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

1. PROFITABLE PRODUCTION METHODS.
2. ADJUSTMENT OF FARM ORGANIZATION.
 - (a) TO REDUCE PRODUCTION COSTS.
 - (b) TO MEET CHANGING CONDITIONS.
 - (c) TO RAISE STANDARD OF LIVING.
3. PLANNING PRODUCTION TO MEET MARKET DEMANDS.
BY MAKING AVAILABLE TO FARMERS AND RANCHMEN THE CROP AND LIVESTOCK SITUATION, OUTLOOK, AND PRICE TENDENCIES.
4. ORGANIZATION OF AGRICULTURAL FACTS AS A BASIS OF AN EXTENSION PROGRAM.

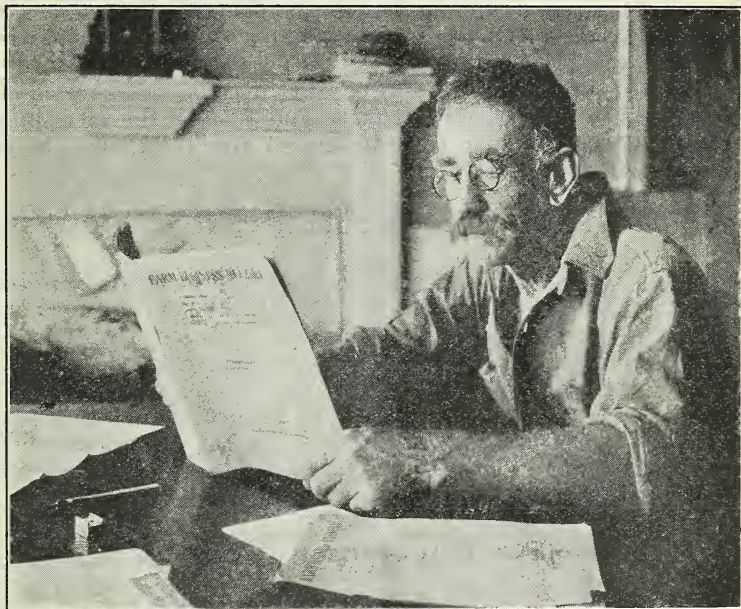


FIG. 6.—Portion of a poster displaying the important features of the Western States farm-management extension program

Perhaps most of all it has brought a more complete realization of the geographical position of the West in the country and in the world and of the fact that a high-quality product is the only profitable surplus product possible for western agriculture.

"The West must grow the best!" should be the slogan; and, as a corollary to it, "The West must live the best!"

The effort toward fact-determined programs in the West has already done much; but it is only a step, and unless the next step is taken the effort will fall short of successful accomplishment.

So far the effort has been to find the facts and to a somewhat less degree to focus the facts. The next big step is to present the settled related facts in such a way that farmers of the West may be guided by them to more accurate thinking, more satisfactory conclusions, more advantageous decisions. This is the aim of all extension work. To this end detailed studies of extension programs in several States and counties and particularly the recommendation of the fact-organization conferences are being made. These are compared with an analysis of the extension programs of the agents during the last three to five years. One object of this is to see what influence the study of facts has had on extension projects and then to develop a detailed extension procedure to put the economic program to work. The extension connection with fact organization may at times have been on the border line or even outside of what is commonly called extension work. The field was entered because of necessity. The work needed to be done, and the laborers were few. Now, with the increasing funds available for research it is hoped that the experiment stations, at least to some degree, can carry on this enterprise.

The step now being taken, that of finding the best way to publish the facts, popularize them, and so translate them into concrete, visible demonstration and obtain a large number of followers, is wholly an extension project.

The Western States extension procedure may be summarized as an effort to find the facts, focus the facts, and furnish the facts in such an attractive manner that the farmers of the West may, to their advantage, follow the facts.

A REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON POULTRY AND CLOTHING, 1927

The fourth of the series of regional program-making conferences was held at Reno, Nev., July 11 to 14, 1927, the subjects for consideration being poultry and clothing. In addition to adopting a regional program in these subjects the standing regional committees on range livestock, human nutrition, dairying, major farm crops, and home management made reports of progress and recommendations. The reports of the clothing and poultry committees follow. For full reports of the projects recommended by the three preceding conferences see Department Circulars 308, 335, and 375.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CLOTHING

OBJECTIVE OF THE CLOTHING EXTENSION PROGRAM

The objective in the clothing extension program is to aid in the development of a higher standard of rural living through better standards of dress and improved personal appearance.

This objective may be attained through instruction enabling the farm family to clothe themselves economically, healthfully, and attractively.

In the extension program for clothing the following factors are considered:

- (1) Economics:
 - (a) Construction.
 - (b) Renovation.
 - (c) Remodeling (especially cutting down).
 - (d) Selection of materials and ready-to-wear garments.
 - (e) Systematic planning.
 - (f) Care and storage.
- (2) Health:
 - (a) Posture.
 - (b) Protection.
 - (c) Ventilation.
 - (d) Freedom of movement.
 - (e) Cleanliness.
- (3) Attractiveness:
 - (a) Color.
 - (b) Design.
 - (c) Texture.
 - (d) Finishings.
 - (e) Accessories.

CLOTHING ACTIVITIES UNDER WAY IN 1926

Economical construction in adults', children's, and infants' clothing; special work in selection, design, and color theory and its application; use and alteration of commercial patterns; dress forms; renovating; remodeling; short cuts and use of machine attachments; hat making; special projects in shoe and hosiery selection; corsetry and posture; girls' clothing clubs; clothing budgets and accounts.

CONDITIONS AFFECTING FAMILY CLOTHING

The conditions affecting the clothing problem of the farm family are:

Limited and uncertain farm income.

The difficulty of systematic planning of family clothing expenditures.

Lack of opportunity for women to supplement the farm income by marketing home products because of small population and long distances to market centers.

More frequent replacement of clothing necessary because of alkali dust, intense sunlight, lack of water, and hardness of water.

Increased expenditure for warm clothing necessary for long-distance travel in extreme weather.

Long distances to adequate shopping centers limit the range of selection and increase the cost.

Lack of equitable distribution of clothing funds among the various members of the family.

Use of colors seriously influenced by climatic conditions affecting complexion.

Lack of appreciation of the effect of suitable and becoming clothing.

The many demands on the home maker's time and energy and her inability to procure hired help decrease the possibility of clothing construction within the home.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON CLOTHING

That emphasis be placed on such clothing technic as will attain results with a minimum expenditure of time and energy and at the

same time meet health and aesthetic requirements through construction phases.

That farm women be taught what constitutes good value in materials, finishes, accessories, and ready-to-wear garments, and how to select them.

That the advantages of systematic planning in clothing the family be brought to the attention of farm women.

That farm women be encouraged to express in clothing, as well as in their homes, their innate desire for beauty.

That the relationship of clothing to health be emphasized through such projects as shoe selection, corsetry, and posture.

That better use be made of opportunities in girls' club work to teach clothing selection and construction.

That research study be made of alterations necessary in ready-to-wear garments and commercial patterns.

That time studies be made in connection with clothing construction in the home.

That further research be made regarding the relation of clothing to health.

That further research be made in the economic aspects of clothing.

MADGE J. REESE,
*Chairman, Field Agent, Western States,
Office of Cooperative Extension Work,
United States Department of Agriculture,*

MARY STILLWELL BUOL,
Assistant Extension Director, Idaho,

AFTON ODELL,
Clothing Specialist, Utah,

BLANCHE E. HYDE,
*Clothing Specialist, Colorado,
Committee.*

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON POULTRY

RECENT TREND AND PRESENT CONDITION OF POULTRY INDUSTRY

Egg production in the United States increased more than twice as fast as did the population from 1919 to 1924. Indications are that this rate of increase in egg production has been maintained since 1924. Purchasing power of consumers has been relatively high. Egg producers have fared rather better than producers of many other farm products. Expansion was a natural and widespread response to favorable market conditions and to improved methods of production.

The increase in production of eggs in the five years from 1919 to 1924 amounted to 60 per cent in the Pacific Coast States and 33 per cent in the Mountain States. In the same period the New England and Middle Atlantic States, the principal competitors of western specialized egg producers, increased their production 51 per cent and 43 per cent, respectively. Even in the North Central States, without specialization, production increased about 10 per cent on a much larger base. The 11 Western States, which have 10 or 11 per cent of the chickens on farms, produce about 14 per cent of the Nation's egg crop.

OUTLOOK

So many egg producers in different parts of the country have already learned how to meet the demand for fresh eggs in the fall and winter months and have prepared to do it that individuals and communities thinking of expansion beyond the capacity of their local markets should consider carefully the economic factors affecting the efficient marketing and economical production of eggs.

With egg prices tending downward and feed prices upward, and with transportation and other fixed charges demanding a larger share of the poultryman's gross return, the chances for success in egg production are not so good now as they have been during the last few years.

Changes in the seasonal distribution of production of eggs for market have been so marked in recent years that the business of storing eggs in the flush season against the consumer demand in the winter has been distinctly unprofitable for many operators. Until production again settles down to some new normal distribution storage may be financially hazardous to operators and producers.

There seems to be little immediate danger of industrial disturbances of sufficient importance to affect seriously the consumer demand for high-grade poultry products.

The present consumer demand for eggs of ordinary quality is not likely to increase greatly in the near future because of the large and increasing number of other foodstuffs that compete with eggs for a share of the consumer's appetite.

The main favorable factor in the outlook for specialized egg producers is the seemingly insatiable demand for fresh eggs of high quality in the fall and winter months and to a less extent for eggs of the highest quality at other periods.

Although readjustments in egg production to meet changes in market demands are already taking place, it is difficult to forecast the time needed to make the readjustment complete.

During the present period of small margins of profit in egg production, overhead charges in production, mortality of fowls, capital invested in land, buildings, and other equipment, and overhead marketing costs are certain to be determining factors in the success of the poultry enterprise on many poultry farms.

The development of the egg industry in the Western States to the point where it is now dependent upon successful marketing in distant consuming areas in direct competition with near-by eggs, emphasizes the need for constant effort on the part of western poultrymen to produce eggs of high quality for eastern shipments.

During the present period of depression in the egg industry good poultrymen are likely to make it unusually difficult for poor poultrymen to succeed.

PHASES TO BE EMPHASIZED AND EXTENSION PROGRAM FOR SPECIALIZED COMMERCIAL
POULTRY PRODUCTION

A specialized commercial flock is designated as one from which the owner obtains at least 75 per cent of his income.

General requirements.—Size of flock: Size of specialized commercial poultry flock should be at least 1,500 hens, or hens of such a

type as will return a corresponding net income (specialized pedigreed breeding flock).

Capital: Capital to the amount of \$5 per hen, or at least \$3 in cash and sure credit to the amount of \$2, should be available for going into specialized commercial poultry production.

Land: Five acres per 1,000 hens is recommended, with the exception that in cases where less than 5 acres per 1,000 hens is used, special facilities such as hard-surfaced yards should be provided to maintain good sanitation.

Extension program.—Flock management: In order that poultrymen may know the actual condition of their business, it is recommended that more stress be laid on record keeping. It is further recommended that extension workers give more attention to the analysis of records to determine the trend of the industry and to aid in developing a sound poultry-extension program.

Check tests: It is recommended that extension workers cooperate with specialized commercial poultrymen in conducting control tests to determine the value of various methods of management of commercial flocks.

Sanitation and disease: Considering the fact that for a permanent poultry industry not enough emphasis has been placed upon sanitation, it is recommended that the extension service in the 11 Western States lay special emphasis on a more strict sanitation program, particularly as related to soil and to house management.

Marketing: It is recommended that extension workers study and encourage cooperative marketing along the lines already proved successful.

Green feed: On the basis of present information it is recommended that ample facilities for the production of green feed be provided, except where a more economical source of vitamin A can be obtained.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COMMERCIAL SIDE-LINE FLOCKS

Definition.—Side-line flocks shall include all flocks between the farm flock and the specialized commercial flock.

Flock replenishing.—Flocks should be replenished with chicks purchased from high-quality "bred-to-lay" stock, and if possible, from accredited or certified stock. Additional data shall be collected that will determine the percentage of the flock that should be replaced annually.

Educational program.—An educational program should be carried on that will emphasize correct housing, feeding, rearing, and sanitation. Special education should be given in the management of flocks for the production of high-quality eggs.

Marketing.—Flocks should be of sufficient size that eggs may be delivered at intervals frequent enough to insure a product that will meet standard grade requirements.

Boys' and girls' club work.—Members of boys' and girls' clubs should be used as demonstrators of better practices in housing, rearing, feeding, and management of the small poultry flock. A score card for club members should be adopted that will embrace vital breeding and egg-production qualities.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FARM FLOCKS

Definition.—A farm flock should be of a size sufficient to supply farm needs. It is recommended that the owner of this type of flock maintain standard breeds of good stock and follow good managerial practices.

REPORT OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON TURKEY PRODUCTION

Little definite information on the turkey industry is available, and methods of production are not uniform. This committee, therefore, recommends that more time be devoted to turkey projects by extension workers in localities where natural conditions are favorable for turkey production.

The principal phases of the work to be emphasized should include:

- (1) Selection and management of breeding stock to produce greater vitality in the poults.
- (2) Project relating to the rearing of poults:
 - (a) Feeding methods.
 - (b) Range.
 - (c) Sanitation and disease control.
 - (d) Preparation for market.
 - (e) Establishment of uniform grades.
 - (f) More effective marketing methods.

The committee recommends that more information be supplied by the poultry division of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics in regard to—

The number of turkeys on hand for breeding purposes as compared with previous years.

The number of turkeys hatched.

The probable supply of turkeys to be marketed.

This information should be made available to extension workers as rapidly as it is obtained.

It is recommended that the United States Department of Agriculture and the State experiment stations investigate more extensively the feeding requirements of turkeys, sanitation and disease control, housing requirements, and other important phases of turkey production.

Because of the lack of knowledge of established grades, and the loss to the producers on account of the miscellaneous methods of grading turkeys, it is recommended that the poultry division of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics make available to all extension poultry specialists the United States standards for grading turkeys, prior to this year's marketing season, and that these grades be adopted by the 11 Western States.

Experience has shown that the artificial hatching and brooding of baby turkeys offers greater advantages than the natural method in cost of production and reduction of losses. This committee therefore recommends that artificial methods of hatching and brooding of turkeys be encouraged by extension workers in commercial turkey-growing districts.

Because of the lack of information on the cost of turkey production, the committee recommends that the United States Department of

Agriculture, the experiment stations, and extension poultrymen assemble cost-of-production records as soon as possible and make them available for poultry-extension workers.

It is also recommended that the extension specialists promote and encourage turkey club work among boys and girls.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE POULTRY INDUSTRY

Extension workers should encourage poultrymen to support and patronize accredited and certified hatchery enterprises in order to improve production and vitality of stock.

Inasmuch as there are many and serious unsolved problems in connection with flock management and poultry diseases, it is recommended that greater facilities be provided by experiment stations and the United States Department of Agriculture for research work in poultry husbandry, and that there be the greatest cooperation possible between extension workers and research staffs.

WILLIAM PETERSON,
Chairman, Extension Director, Nevada,
M. W. BUSTER,
Poultry Specialist, California,
HARRIETTE E. CUSHMAN,
Poultry Specialist, Montana,
W. D. BUCHANAN,
Poultry Specialist, Washington,
Committee.

The above reports of the committees on clothing and poultry were considered and approved by the coordinating committee.

W. A. LLOYD,
Chairman, Regional Agent in Charge, Western States,
Office of Cooperative Extension Work,
United States Department of Agriculture,
CECIL W. CREEL,
Extension Director, Nevada,
PAUL V. MARIS,
Extension Director, Oregon,
S. B. NELSON,
Extension Director, Washington,
A. E. BOWMAN,
Extension Director, Wyoming,
ROUD McCANN,
Extension Director, Colorado,
B. H. CROCHERON,
Extension Director, California,
P. H. ROSS,
Extension Director, Arizona,
Committee.

The reports were presented to the conference and on motion adopted.

CECIL W. CREEL,
Chairman, Extension Director, Nevada,
 WILLIAM PETERSON,
Extension Director, Utah,
 MADGE J. REESE,
Field Agent, Western States,
Office of Cooperative Extension Work,
United States Department of Agriculture,
Committee in Charge of the Conference.

The conference adjourned to meet at Laramie, Wyo., in November, 1928, at which time there will be a reconsideration of the range-livestock, dairy, and human-nutrition program, of examples of progress, and of effective extension methods of carrying out the recommendations.

ADDITIONAL COPIES
 OF THIS PUBLICATION MAY BE PROCURED FROM
 THE SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS
 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
 WASHINGTON, D. C.
 AT
 5 CENTS PER COPY
 ▽

